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Electoral Roll Division

File No. 23/1/2015-ERS –
–(NERPAP)

Launching of Electoral Roll Purification and Authentication Drive (Matdata Soochi Shudhhikaran aum Pramanikaran Abhiyan)15.02.2015-15.05.2015.

The Commission is launching **Electoral Roll Purification and Authentication Drive (ERPAD)** launching on 14.02.2015 in Hyderabad to achieve an objective of a clean and healthy electoral roll during the year 2015. Four other Zonal Conferences will be announced soon.

Main Objectives of ERPAD

- To achieve a Draft E-Roll by 1st October,2015 which is
- 100 % Error –free.
- 100% Multiple-entry free not only at the state level but also at the National Level.
- 100% linked and authenticated by Biometric data of Adhaar and in absence of non-coverage of Aadhar, by one of the 5 documents, namely, Passport, Driving License, PAN Card, TIN No. or by Bank Account.
- All data as far as possible linked with email or mobile no. (of Self or of a family member)

Salient Features of ERPAD

- Massive Campaign for Voluntary Disclosure of Multiple Entries and authentication of records by the Voters supported by the Web Portal of NVSP and by ERO's Facilitation Centres, and other Centres of E-Seva, CSC, Lokvani, Post –Offices and Banks.
- Briefing of the CEOs and proper training to DEOs, EROs/AEROs and BLOs.

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- Daily hearing by EROs/AEROs at ERO office or Voters' Service Centres and spot correction and authentication and issuance of Photo voter slip by ERO.
- Special Camps at earmarked Centres for Authentication, Spot Correction and deletion.
- Strict Monitoring by EROs, DEOs, and CEOs and the ECI.
- Award for the 100% achievers at BLO, ERO, DEO and CEO Levels in three categories of authentication, correction and deletion of multiple entries.

Daily Hearing and disposal by EROs / AEROs

- EROs will make an arrangement of daily hearing at an earmarked location at ERO office 5 days a week and wide publicity of this system will be done by the ERO at the Polling station levels
- Roll(s) should be available for inspection at the ERO level and at the Polling Booth Level.
- Either ERO or AERO will be present in the ERO office for hearing on prefixed days and time, say, from 1 PM to 4 PM , however, it will be ensured that the ERO will be available at least for 1 day during the week.
- Tatkal correction of particulars of elector or change / replacement of photograph in EPIC to be done (through Form 8) on producing any one of the 14 alternative documents containing photograph of applicant.
- Facility of linking the authenticated documents will be provided by the EROs at their facilitation cnetres.
- ERO will be authorised to make spot correction of entries including the replacement of photographs.

Other Important Points reg. Hearing and Disposal by EROs / AEROs

- Correction to be done in the shortest possible period (maximum within 7 days if field verification required)
- For correction / replacement of photograph, any family member can visit with necessary application and supporting document. Personal appearance of applicant not required in each case.
- After correction of particulars / replacement of photograph, no replacement EPIC shall be issued but a photo voter slip with corrected details / replaced photograph with signature of concerned ERO / AERO/ BLO shall be given.

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- In case the elector makes a request for replacement EPIC that can be issued to him on payment of necessary charge for replacement EPIC.

Linking Adhaar Data or other document, E-mail ID and Mobile No.

- CEOs shall give this service with the same logo of 'National Voters Service Portal' on their website and hyperlink the same to www.nvsp.in .
- The seeding of Aadhar number can be done by the following multiple platforms : -
  - ✓ Online self feeding by elector through NSVP web portal.
  - ✓ Through SMS Gatway, e-mail, mobile application.
  - ✓ Information given in a prescribed simple form along with copy of Adhaar and EPIC. Information collected on the prescribed format through BLOs during their door to door visit or information collected through the VSCs.

SVEEP Campaign

360 Degree Publicity Campaign (like OLX, Flipkart Model) will be mounted in following ways:-

- Newspaper Advertisement
- Publicity on Electronic Channels, Radio, Internet and Mobile Phones will be carried Out
- Publicity Campaign through ECI, CEO and DEO Portal and linking to other government websites, websites of Banks, Railways and other Public Service Portals
- Digital Banner Publicity through facebook, youtube, Twitter, SMS gateway and other important websites
- Will piggyback on major government programmes of health, education, rural development and Panchayati Raj etc.

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Partnership with Stakeholders

- Meeting and briefing of Political Parties will done at all levels and request will be made to make BLAs for all Polling Stations and actively associate them in this campaign and launch publicity at their end as well.
- Working closely with good Civil Society organisations
- Take active support of educational instructions and schools in popularising this drive
- Take active support of all youth and community based organisations
- Take active help of the Local Bodies

Benefit of ERPAD to Electors

- For any further service such as change of address, modification will be done only after his consent through the OTP generation method
- Elector will keep getting information and messages for different services related to registration and elections
- Voter Slip will be sent during election
- Separate accounts will be made for each voter and nobody else will be able to tamper with elector's data
- Elector's data will be masked after biometric tagging and data can be seen only by the voter and not by others. This will secure the privacy of his personal information.
- Quick facility of tracking his information and other service related to EPIC
- Elector's Enrolment data cannot be deleted without his consent.

Benefit of ERPAD to Electoral Machinery

- Getting a reliable and authenticated data.
- To help in cleaning the multiple entries and also not allowing to create multiple entries further
- Much lesser time, effort and resources for Citizen services at National level
- Standardization of document and data
- Better Security

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- Provisioning for national level services
- Linking the Electors data with Biometric will help in authenticating voters during Poll. This will even obviate the need of possessing EPIC by voters
- Linking biometric with EVM will require much less Polling staff in the Polling Stations and disputes on account of identification will be not arise. Roll of Polling agents will also get minimised
- Need for indelible ink will also not arise
- Computer based report will be generated instead of manual report by the presiding officer. Data analysis at state and national level will also become easier
- In the future it will also facilitate in e-voting and voting from any Polling station. Longer duration of Poll will also be possible if the ATM option is made available.

Draft guidelines have been prepared on the basis of above and putup for approval. These may be circulated among CEOs for obtaining their inputs before finalizing the same for issue before launching ERPAD.

Submitted please.

7/2/15

The Commission may like to allow to send the draft guidelines to the CEO and get their suggestion of comments.

7/2/15

Nasim Zaidi
7/2/15

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Ref: Pre-page

For the purpose of cleaning of national electoral rolls, the Commission has decided to launch ERPAD from 15.02.2015 – 15.05.2015. Draft guidelines in this respect have already been circulated among all the CEOs requesting for sending their inputs / suggestions by 10.02.2015. We have received replies from only 12 CEOs namely Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Haryana, Kerala, Mizoram, Puducherry, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. The suggestions given by the above CEOs are summarized as below:-

1) **Arunachal Pradesh:**
   - Due to poor internet connectivity / power supply in the State, online activities like E-Seva, Web portal of NVSP, SMS Gate way, face-book, youtube, twitter etc., on the spot modification, deletion, correction, issue voter slip and EPIC etc., will not be possible.
   - Linking of Aadhar and other documents would not be possible as issuance of Aadhar is in initial stage while other documents are not available with the rural voters.

2) **Assam :**
   - Linking of Aadhar and other documents would not be possible as issuance of Aadhar is in initial stage while other documents are not available with the voters.

3) **Bihar :**
   - Due to impending general election to the legislative assembly de-novo intensive revision of electoral roll cannot be undertaken at this stage.

4) **Chhattisgarh :**
   - CEOs should be allowed to dateline various components of the campaign according to their specific requirements with a end date specified by the Commission.
   - CEOs may be asked to submit action plan in advance and ECI can monitor on real time basis.

5) **Gujarat :**

   Instead of de-novo intensive revision, special summary revision with house-to-house verification by BLOs along with BLO register has been suggested.

   - This exercise may be taken from 1st July to 30th August, 2015.

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- Rationalization of polling stations should be undertaken before house to house verification. The proposed schedule for rationalization of polling stations is from 15.03.2015 to 30.06.2015.
- Additional one time remuneration for BLOs (3000/-) and Sector Officer (2500/-)
- For Aadhar tagging, data collected by Civil Supplies department will be utilized in Gujarat.
- Exact methodology for voluntary disclosure of multiple entries should be laid down.
- Instead of daily hearing and disposal by EROs/AEROs, one fixed day hearing and weekly monitoring has been recommended.
- Provision for necessary fund for effective SVEEP campaign should be done.
- Instruction for suo-moto deletion may be incorporated.
- Longer period for next summary revision proposed to be started from 1st September 2015 with final publication by mid February 2016.

6) Haryana:

- Marking of house numbering and identification of Sections should be done through Census and Revenue department.
- Preparation of digital maps for polling stations
- Clear guidelines for surveyors/enumerators.
- Use of BLAs in the exercise
- Revision should be thee only at the time of bye-elections of particular constituency and in election year and in between regular enrolment of eligible person correction in entries, deletions etc. should be done on regular basis and electoral rolls should be published as drat by merging the data of electors enrolled after final publication.
- Administrative units existing on cut-off date should be taken for revision and should not undergo any change till completion process.

7) Kerala:

- Possibility of linking the data of Service personnel available with the Ministry of Defence to the proposed national E-Roll database may also be explored

8) Mizoram:

- Birth Certificate may also be included in the list of documents for authentication of electors.

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From previous page.

9) **Puducherry:**

- Instead of de-novo intensive revision, method of house to house verification.as is done in intensive revision, may be adopted.
- BLOs may carry out verification of each and every elector in the draft roll in draft roll and Supervisors may be appointed to review the field visit of BLO on day to day basis.
- BLOs could be provided with pre-printed forms containing the names of electors in each house, seeking the particulars of Aadhar number, Mobile Number and e-mail ID.
- A separate Camp Office of ERO/AERO may be created in each ERO office with data entry cell during the field verification days to key in the data on daily basis and generate MIS reports on the particulars of electors verified, pending electors and also the details of Aadhar numbers collected etc. The Camp office could also function as a convergent point to collect and dispose claims and objections during the field verification period.
- The entire exercise could be carried out in one go instead of repeat exercise during revision.

10) **Rajasthan:**

- By allowing other documents in addition to Aadhar Number will again lead to chance of duplicate entries as elector can get enrolled at two places with the help of producing two different documents at two places. Suggested to allow only one document i.e Aadhar for authentication.
- NVSP: Feeding of information through SMS Gateway, Mobile App, e-mail etc. may also be facilitated through a Central Portal.

11) **Uttar Pradesh:**

- Due to end of financial year in Feb-March and Board Exams in Feb-April, field officers and BLOs will be extremely busy and therefore, activities of ERPAD may be undertaken during the period from 15th April 2015 onwards.

12) **West Bengal:**

- Main objective of ERPAD- Guidelines should include 100% enrolment of eligible electors and 100% error free EPIC.
- Other important points regarding hearing and disposal: personal appearance of the electors may not be dispensed off entirely and ERO should reserve right of verification.

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- SVEEP: Intervention like distribution of voters slips by BLOs, quiz/drawing competitions for newly enrolled electors at educational institutions, formation of human chains, run for

  democracy are quite effective programs. Communication through BLOs/AWWs, educational institutions, local bodies etc. should be integral part of mass mobilization.

- As Commission is considering undertaking ERPAD this year, de-novo intensive revision may not be taken up.
- Tatkal correction: Statutory provision regarding 7 days' notice period may be modified suitably. This facility may be given prior to an election.
- BLOs may be engaged effectively for collection of data regarding Aadhar and other details of electors and BLOs may be compensated suitably by enhancing the remuneration. The fund for SVEEP activities may be utilized for this exercise.
- CEO West Bengal has further requested to take up the issue of fund allocation with the state government. Commission may also consider allotting special fund for ERPAD on the lines of training and SVEEP activities.

Submitted.

Secy (NNB)

13.02.15

In this connection, the office note at pgs 1-5/ante may please be referred to.

The draft guidelines for ERPAD were circulated among all CEOs seeking their inputs/suggestions. Only 12 CEOs have responded despite verbal/written reminder. Suggestions made by 12 CEOs have been summarized as above.

main points raised by these CEOs are as follows:-

(1) Time line - While CEO, Chhattisgarh has stated that CEOs may be allowed to make their own schedule, CEOs of Gujarat and U.P have recommended to begin the exercise after board exams. Gujarat

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proposed from 1st July, UP has recommended that this should take up from 15th April.

(ii) Spl. Summary Revision instead of De-novo :— CEOs of Gujarat, Puducherry and West Bengal have requested not to conduct de-novo this year. Instead they have suggested to do an intensive house to house verification of existing electors by BLOs with pre-filled entries in BLO register/electoral card

(iii) Tagging of Aadhaar and other documents : - While CEO, Rajasthan has suggested to tag only one document, i.e. 'Aadhaar', CEOs of Arunachal and Assam have explained their inability to tag any of the documents.

(iv) Daily hearing by EROs/AEROs - Instead of daily hearing, CEO Gujarat has suggested for hearing on one fixed day.

(v) Provision of exclusive fund for ERPAD - CEOs of Gujarat and West Bengal have requested for additional fund for ERPAD exclusively.

It is obvious from the above that most of the CEOs are yet to tender their views. Even from the opinion/comments given by the 12 CEOs mentioned above it is evident that

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CEOs have divergent views. In view of the above, a VC may be held with all CEOs before finalizing the guidelines.

Submitted please.

13/2/15

A date convenient to VC may please be indicated.

16.2.15

DEC (US)

Suggestions made by several CEOs may be incorporated in the PPT to be presented during CEOs' conference on 23rd Feb, 2015.

Pr. Secy (RKB)

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Secy (NNB)

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